

ANOTHER

637

165198

OUT-CRY

OF THE

Innocent & Oppressed.

BEING

A true Account of the unjust and illegal proceedings of *Richard Rainsford* and *Roger Norwich*, and others; against *Thomas Allen*, *Francis Child*, *Richard Coe*, and *William Line*, being such as are called **QUAKERS**, at the

GENERAL

Quarter Sessions

Holden at the

CASTLE In NORTHAMPTON

ON

The 12. and 13 days of the 10th. moneth
1665. where *Rich. Rainsford* sat in Judgment.

AND

When *Richard Rainsford* saw that the *Plague* was somewhat ceased; (as *Pharaoh* did *Exodus* 9. 34.) he hardened his heart, and those called *Justices* that joyned with him, so their hearts were hardened that they attempted the second time unjustly to pass Sentence to Transport the Servants of the Lord to the Island of *Barbados*.

Printed in the Year 1665.

YR-O-T-O

innocent 8c. O pbriffed

Quarter Section

ASTLEY & NORTHAMPTON

1000

Another Out-cry of the Innocent and Oppressed, &c.

UPON the 13. day of the 10th. Moneth in the Afternoon, when the other business of the Country was ended, the Prisoners were brought from the Goal where they had been kept near five Moneths, and being come were set to the Bar, Richard Raynsford who was Judge, commanded the Goaler to take off their Hates, which was done, then one of the Prisoners named *Thomas Allen*, said unto them, if ye were men of Wisdom and understanding, ye would not seem to take notice of such a beggerly Rudiment as the Hat; whereat some of them laughed like Children in a Play; but the Court being silent again, the Judge commanded the Clerk to read the Indictment, which was done, the substance of it was, that the Prisoners being formerly taken, at an unlawful assembly, Meeting, or Conventicle at the House of *Thomas Allen* in *Dingley*, together with divers Malefactors, to the number of 30. persons, or above, and being thereof twice lawfully convicted before *Obrian Cockain*, Lord Viscount *Cullaine*, *Roger Norwich* Baronet, and *Lewis Palmer* Esquire, and being since that taken again at the same place, and committed to Prison by the said *Roger Norwich*, and *Lewis Palmer*, as disturbers of the publick peace, stood lawfully indicted for the same, &c. much more of falsehood and lies was added unto it, as it is ordinarily known to them that are acquainted with their Practice; nevertheless, the Judge spake to *Thom. Allen*, Are you guilty of this Indictment or not? to which he answered, *The Indictment I find is false, and may have as many lies in it as lines*; at which the Judge seemed angry, saying, Lies, lies! the Prisoner answered, *A lie is a lie, and how should I otherwise express it*: then the Judge said again, Well, are you guilty or not? then the Prisoner answered, *I am not guilty of what is contained in the Indictment*. Then the Judge called *Francis Child*, Art thou guilty or not guilty? To which he answered, I have something

to say before I plead to that; I am very glad the Lord hath found me worthy at this day to bear witness to his truth against a hard hearted and cruel Generation; I desire we may be removed from our strict Imprisonment to work for our bread, for I believe we might find more mercy amongst the *Turks*.

The Judge said again, *are you guilty or not of this Indictment?*

Pris. I am not guilty, for there are many lies in it, therefore I fear you not, do your work that you may have your wages, for the Lord hath yet more Arrows to shoot at you.

Judge called to *William Line*, saying, *are you guilty or not guilty?*

Prisoner. I am not guilty, I have been but twice convicted by your Law.

Judge. What have you to say for your self? *Pri.* I am a Labouring man and have a Wife and five Children, and if you take me from my labour it may go hard with them.

Richard Coe being demanded the same as the other by the Judge, he answered, that he was not guilty.

Then a sort of poor Country men, whom they had prepared for their service, were called and sworn to this effect, that they should well and truly try betwixt the King and the Prisoners at the Bar, according to the Evidence; exceptions were made against some of them by the Prisoners, knowing them to be men as were not capable of doing such a service, telling the Court that by a Law lately made they might not serve, having not Land of such a value; but one *Randolph* a known enemy to the truth of God, executing the Clerks Office, said, *they may serve your turn*, and would not allow of our exceptions, but proceeded to the examination of Witnesses that were brought in against us, which being done, *Thomas Allen* having the Act there, read and shewed to the Court and Jury a Proviso in it, in these words following, *Provided alwayes that no person shall be punished for any offence against this Act, unless such Offenders be prosecuted for the same within three Moneths after the Offence committed.* Nevertheless, the Judge refused to allow us the benefit of the Law in that particular, although we had been in Prison near five Moneths, and had so much exceeded the limit of the Act, and pleaded against us, saying the Sessions was adjourned because of the Sickness, and upon that account the day upon which they should have been kept, and this on both one day; which were more then two Moneths after: then

Thomas

(3)

Thomas Allen answered, Nay, they are two dayes besides many dayes betwixt: nevertheless the *Judge* knowing they had a Jury upon whom they could set their own stamp as easily as upon a lump of Clay, stood opposite to the thing; although allowed and approved by several others upon the like occasion; then the *Judge* said, you are such as will not be subject to the King's Lawes; to which *Thomas Allen* answered, art thou a man sitting in Judgment and hast no more to say against us, the very Rabble in the Streets can say as much as that; but tell us if thou canst what Lawes of the Nation there are which we are not more subject to then your your selves, save only those which concern the Worship of God, which King and Parliament have nothing at all to do with, for what power and authority is that which will dare to take upon them to prescribe a way for God's Worship? I say, this is Antichrist, the highest presumption in all the earth: then the *Judge* said, do not you prescribe a way: the Prisoner answered, nay, we prescribe none. Then the *Judge* spoke to the Jury to go forth.

Thomas Allen said, what need they to go forth, are we not clearly acquitted by the Act? to which the *Judge* would give no Answer, the Jury standing still in the Court, *Randolph* the Clerke told them they must go forth; then they begin to go away, but *Thomas Allen* called them to stay a while, which they did, then he spake to them in these words, Friends, I would have you to take notice of the great Judgments of God which have come upon this Nation since these cruel Lawes were made and put in execution against us, you know we had some years agoe a great and tempestuous wind by which many Trees were torn up by the Roots, and Houses laid on heaps; after that a strange infectious disease fell among Horses, such a one as hath not usually been heard of, whereby many hundreds died in several places, to the great damage of Husbandmen and others; after that a great rot of Sheep for two years together, by which many men were ruined, whose substance consisted principally in those Cattle; and now of late a sore Judgment of the Plague, such as never was in the memory of man, in so much that the Plagues of England hath been well nigh equal to the Plagues of Egypt; and besides all these, the trade and prosperity of the Nation is so much decayed, that things never looked with such a face in England as they do at this day. But whiles he was thus speaking to them, they were commanded to

go forth, so they went and stayed a pretty while, and when coming in, it was asked whether or no they were agreed upon their verdict? they answered, yes; then the Clerk asked them who should speak for them? but they being men altogether unacquainted with such a service, made no Answer; then it was asked again if the Foreman should speak for them? they said, Yes; then said the Clerk, how do you find them? the Foreman said Guilty twice; well then said the Clerk, you find them guilty? the Foreman said, Yes; upon this the Clerk recorded them all guilty, and the Judge passed sentence upon them, to be Transported unto Barbados, and no more. The business being done, some of the Jurymen told the Prisoners that things were not rightly done according to their agreement, for the agreement was to acquit them; whereupon the Prisoners asked them why they did not speak when they see such a gross miscarriage in the Court? their answer was, they feared if they should have spoken, the Judge would have laid them by the heels.

Here all may see the gross malicious wickedness and corruption both of *Richard Rainsford* Judge, and *Randolph* that was Clerk.

First, in denying the Prisoners the benefit of the Law; which others have had at several times in this like case, and have been acquitted thereupon without any other proceedings.

Secondly, in trying them by a Jury not allowed nor approved by the Law.

Thirdly, in not allowing the Prisoners their exception made against them, nor their lawful reasons why.

Lastly, in perverting the Judgment and verdict of the Jury, and passing sentence thereupon.

Oh thou County of *Northampton* who art placed upon the middle and top of the Nation, whose Waters falls from the East, West, North and South, into the Ocean, thou hast in this work of persecution exceeded all the Counties of this Nation, thou wert the first that in all the South of England (eleven years ago) imprisoned the true Prophets of the Lord, whom the Lord had raised in the North Country, *William Dewsbury*, *John Whitehead*, *Thomas Stubbs*, and *Thomas Goodaire*, with many more; the Devil hath had his chief Inland Garrison in the midst of thee, and his Instruments have continually to this day cast into thy Prison the servants of the Lord, and they have there borne their faithful Testimonies for the

London, and no wicked cruel Goalers hath been found in
 England then hath been there to this day; and the Priests there
 hath put to their strength at all times to drive on the Magistrates
 to persecute, and never had they one more at their command
 then Judge *Raynsford* is for them at this day; who hath been
 the lone Magistrate that hath caused Persecution of the Lords
 people, and to execute the cruel and unmerciful Act in banishing
 of them. *John Whitfield* Priest of *Buckbrook*, and one *Richard*
Hart and *Thomas Hog*, the Priests of *Kissinberry* and *Furthlington*,
 are they which ride upon the back of the Beast to make him be the
 executioners of their bloody intents; these Priests have cast into
 the Prison this last year divers of the Lords people, because they
 could not for Conscience sake pay them Pythes at the beginning
 of Harvest, and when they were in Prison, they carryed away the
 poor peoples Grain, in some places above half that grew upon
 their Land; and some asked them why they did so? they an-
 swered that they might take what they would, there was no Law
 for the *Quakers* now; and still keeps their bodies in Prison to
 this day. Thus O County of *Northampton* thou wilt one day be
 even a shame to the Nation; but this we say in honour of those
 Magistrates that have been true suffering Royalists, not one of
 them that formerly suffered for the late King, but hath and doth
 shew themselves like men in their places, and will have no hand in
 Persecution, but those that have been *Tornants* of the *Amalekites*
 breed, they are the men that drive on the Devils work of Perse-
 cution in this Country; for they having never done no good for
 their King before: Now they think there is no other way to me-
 rit and get into the favour of the King, but by persecuting of the
 people of the Lord, and at last they will prove the greatest ene-
 mies to the King in the Nation, and a hissing unto all people. In
 this County was the first bloodshed in the beginning of the late
 War that was shed in England, and at *Nusby* the late King upon
 the very top of England had his last and total overthrow; upon
 the top of this Nation *John Lambert* was taken, and had his great
 and last overthrow; four years ago the Lord sent a Rain in *May*
 that drowned a Town called *Weedon*, and other Towns on the
 top of England to the damage of many thousands of pounds, and
 never did no hurt in places where it went lower; and now this
 last Visitation this year no less then 16 Towns were visited with
 the

the Plague, and yet they repent not of their wickedness, but go on to provoke the Lord.

The Cause of the Innocent spread before the Lord, and the unjust Proceedings of the Rulers against them, before all People.

Luke 18. 7. Now shall not God avenge his Elect which cry day and night unto him, yea though he suffers long for them, I tell you he will avenge them quickly. Therefore all ye Rulers of this Nation of England that have set your selves in battle ray with all your might and power against the Lord and against his seed, that according to what his true Prophet *Jeremiah* declared, the Lord hath raised in this Northern Island, which he hath said must dwell in their own Land, you through the envy and wickedness that rules in your hearts seeks to murder, banish, imprison, persecute, and to rage out, and to destroy this seed whom the Lord hath raised, and that he hath blessed and will bless now, henceforth and for evermore.

Now that your wickedness may appear even to your own view, and that you may be ashamed for that which you have done, and are a doing against the Lord and against his people here amongst you; I would have you to consider what the Lord hath done for you, ye Rulers of England, remember, were you not in a low condition not many years since, and was it then in your hearts to do to us as now you have done, if the Lord would but restore you to your power and places again? if you were at that time so resolved to do, your tongues and declaration did not at that time declare the same thing, but it was promised that none should suffer for his Religion, in case he lived peaceably in the Nation, and these promises were not by force forced from you, but it was done freely by you, and it was the Lord that made the terms with you, and not man, and after that time the Lord gave your enemies into your hands, and without your Sword or Bow, or the valour of your men of War, the Lord brought you again into your possession, and the Lord performed what he had decreed as concerning your Restauration; and it had been well for you and this Nation if you had performed what you had promised to the Lord in the behalf of his people; but to this day the Lord's people hath and doth grievously suffer under your power, who hath lived peaceably under you, and hath never at any time molested your Authority, neither have they ever made any plot or

persecutions against you or your Authority, nor never joyined
any that did, to this day, and yet ye have made us the only
targets that ye shoot at, contrary to what ye have promised unto
us; and before the Righteous God we have spread our innocent
blood and sufferings, and he hath heard our cry, and now he is arisen
to plead our Cause, and wo and misery and destruction will af-
flictfully be the portion of all those that are found fighting against
him, as you are at this day.

Hear O yee Rulers of *England* the Lords controversie against
you, you have contrary to your promises abused, persecuted, im-
prisoned his servants, and you have made an unrighteous Law to
push them forth of the Land, and you have put in execution this
your unnatural Law, & are still putting it into execution, you have
hardened your hearts far beyond *Pharaoh*, and your cruelty to-
wards the Lords people hath far exceeded his towards *Israel*, he
never imprisoned the *Israelites*, neither did he ever shut them up
that they might not labour for their livelihood, but you have shut
up thousands of the Lords people in *Prisons* and *Dungeons*, and
there they are at this day, and by that means they cannot labour
with their hands to get bread for themselves and their families,
and yet you are so cruel that you force your taxes from them:
O cruelty far exceeding *Egypt*s bondage; and *Pharaoh*'s sin was, he
would not have had *Israel* gone from him out of his Country,
but the Lord sent for them by *Moses*; but your sin is this, you
have made a Law to force the Lords people out of their Native
Country, where the Lord hath raised them, and placed them;
therefore as you have exceeded them in cruelty, towards the
Lords people, so will the Lord multiply his Plagues upon you as
upon *Egypt*, untill you be made to let *Israel* alone to Worship the
Lord, as his good Spirit shall lead and direct them; and notwith-
standing you have thus rebelled against the Lord, and abused his
servants ever since the Lord hath restored you into power, yet
hath the Lords mercy been shewed towards you, and his good
spirit hath a long time striven with you, and the Lords servants
whom you call *Quakers* have at all times been faithful unto you,
and they have told you the mind of the Lord, and what would
come upon you in case you went on with your wicked work of
persecution of the Innocent, but to this day you have regarded
them not, but have persecuted and abused them, both Rulers,
B Priests,

Priests, and People, and you have dealt far worse and crueller to them then *Pharaoh* did by *Moses* and *Aaron*, and now the Lords wrath is kindled against you, and there is like to be no remedy, for you have hardened your hearts against the Lord, and you have not believed his Prophets, therefore you cannot prosper; thy Judge *O England* have perverted the Law, and by that means hath made many widdows and fatherless Children, and their cry hath come into the ears of the Lord of Hosts, who now will surely punish their Cause, and will reward into thy bosom for the wrong thou hast done unto his Chosen, and as thou hast (notwithstanding the warnings) hardened thy heart against the Lord and his people, now hath he given thee up to hardness of heart, the greatest of all Judgments, and the nearest to destruction, and thou hast shut thy eyes against the light, and would neither see nor hear, nor take notice of the mighty works of the Lord that he hath made manifest in thee, and now great is the darkness that hath covered thee. *John* saw in the *Revelation* three unclean Spirits like Frogs come out of the mouth of the Dragon, Beast and false Prophets, and they have come unto thee to stir thee up to battle against the great day of God Almighty, and two of these thou hast lent thy ears and took their Counsel, O how hath thy false Prophets deceived thee, and perswaded thee to carry on thy work of persecution, in banishing the righteous out of thy Land, and though the Lord hath appeared in his Judgments against thee ever since the very week that thou begins to banish his servants, yet have they not given over, but both in Cities and Countreyes they have made it their work to preach to the People that the Plague would not cease, but increase because the Rulers had not banished the *Quakers* forth out of the Land, and so Judge *Rainsford* said this Sessions in open Court that the Reason was that Gods Judgments were so in the Nation because they had not removed the *Quakers* out of the Land; but hear other Judges and Rulers being blind, cannot or will not see what is the cause, no more then *Pharaoh* could when the Lord struck his Chariot Wheels when he was pursuing *Israel* into the Sea. For ye Judges and Rulers, if that is the cause that Gods Judgments are so upon the Nation, then why did you not make more haste to remove Gods Judgment; have not you seen how the Lord hath fought against you ever since you have gone about this cursed work of Persecution, and especially of banishing the Lords people

you ever prospered since you have begun in any thing that
 you have put your hands unto, how hath the Lord fought
 against you, will all his four Elements, as Winds, Fire, and Wa-
 ter, and those creatures that have fed upon the Earth, how have
 they been corrupted and brought to nothing, to the impoverish-
 ing of thy Inhabitants, how hath thy Trading decayed both in
 Cities and Countreyes, so that the peoples hearts even now be-
 gin to fail them, and these going before to forewarn thee, but
 thou taking no notice of them, how hath the Lord smote thee late-
 ly in thy Cities with the Plague, and laid thousands upon heaps
 in a short space, but this thy Rulers have taken little notice of
 neither; and now the Lord hath much taken this Judgment of the
 Plague off on thee, once more to try thee if thou wilt let his peo-
 ple go free, but being taken off, thy Rulers begins again to har-
 den their hearts, and already make hast to go on with their cur-
 sed work of sentencing the people of the Lord in this County of
 Northampton to Banishment, as is seen by *Richard Rainsford* this
 Sessions, who said the cause was why he did not do it at *Michaelmas*
 Sessions was, because of the Plague which that time was hot in
 the Country, but now he is the first in the Nation that is heard of
 that begins this wicked work, as *Pharaoh* did when the Plague was
 taken off, but it cannot be but taken notice of, that though the
 Plague had ceased in *London* many weeks before, yet that week
 that this wicked Judge began his cursed work to sentence the in-
 nocent again, that very week the Lord made an encrease of the
 Plague again in the *Chief City*, to let him and all other wicked
 Rulers know that their work of persecution is the cause of the
 Lords sending and continuing of his Judgments upon this Land,
 and it had been well if the Rulers in this Nation after they had so
 grievously sinned against the Lord in persecuting of his people, and
 by that work had caused Gods Judgments to be poured down
 upon them, and if they had repented of their evil works, and with
David had been willing to have fallen into the hands of the Lord,
 it might have been that the Lord would have been merciful unto
 them, and the Lords wrath might have been appeased towards
 them and the Land, but they have and do still rebell against the
 Lord, and say in their hearts still, *We know not the Lord*, and *who*
is the Lord that we should obey him? and will do what they can to
 drive on their Chariots, (though the Lord hath struck off their
 Wheels)

Wheels) to the pursuing of Israel, and think because they
 taken their flight and have run with the swift from thee,
 that the Lord hath no other that can take hold on them; but
 the Lord hath other Plagues in store for such Persecutors who
 cease not repent, as he had for Pharaoh after he had seen
 plague of smiting the first-born in Egypt; and if you go on in
 your work still, of persecuting, imprisoning, and banishing Gods
 people, you shall surely find that made good upon you, which the
 Lord of the Lord George Bishop writ unto the King and both Houses
 of Parliament the last year the 23rd of the 9th month 1664.
 The words were these, *Meddle not with my People, because of the
 science so me, and banish them not of this Nation, because of the
 science; for if you do, I will send my Plagues upon you; and you
 know that I am the Lord.* And surely in a large measure the
 prophesie is fulfilled upon this Nation ever since the Rulers
 banished the Lords people, and if you go on it will be fulfilled
 you to the uttermost, Therefore; O England, believe not
 thy false Prophets who cries peace unto thee, and saith it is
 well with thee, though thou still goes on with thy cursed
 persecution, for those who are thy best friends and cannot
 thee, sees thee to be in a sad condition by reason of thy sin;
 thy surfeiting thy self with the abundance of Gods mercies
 he bestowed upon thee five years ago, and ever since thou hast
 falling into a Consumption, and now thou art become so feeble
 Nation of England, as not able to help thy self, and except
 the Lord by his power restore thee (which he will not if thou
 persists in the wicked work of persecution) thou wilt assuredly
 come to ruine and destruction.

THE END